

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

Greatest Single Crop.
Potatoes form the world's greatest single crop, 4,000,000,000 bushels being produced annually, equal in bulk to the entire wheat and corn crops.

The Wise Indian.
The government is to pay the Winnebagoes \$5,000,000 for their lands. It was a wise move for the Indians when they located in North America.

Keeping and Breaking.
In Germany women are permitted to attend political meetings, but are debarred from speaking. This is keeping the promise to the ear, but breaking it to the hope.

Revenge at Last.
Chief Ne-te-ya-ka (the Man-Who-Loves-His-Boys), with some copper-colored friends, visited every saloon in Lawton, Ok., the other day, bought a drink at every place and then informed the federal officials. Selling liquor to an Indian is dealt with severely, and thus Ne-te-ya-ka has secured his revenge for a century of dishonor.

The Show of Playing War.
Kaiser Wilhelm's charge at the head of his cavalry was magnificent, but it was not war. If it had been war the Kaiser would not have been at the head of his troops; neither would the artillery forces be routed but, as Gen. Corbin remarked with unconscious humor, it was a fine military spectacle.

A Curious Interpretation.
Rabbi Isidore Myers, of San Francisco, in addressing a meeting of the Federation of Zionists, gave a new interpretation of the design of the American flag. Among his hearers were Jewish immigrants, largely Russians. He said: "Do you know why the stars and stripes are in the flag? I will tell you why. They show that America has stars for those who behave themselves and stripes for those who do not."

When Figures Fall Down.
The American farmer is the greatest man in the world. A "combining" with a capital of \$1,000,000,000 is a great thing because it is a combine, but \$1,000,000,000 relatively to the capital of money, brain and brawn invested in the agricultural industry in this country is not at all a great thing. Figures simply stagger and fall down when they attempt to represent the real foundation wealth of America, which is agricultural.

Generosity, Old and New.
Much credit is given to the kind-heartedness of the coal operators for allowing the striking miners to take coal without charge from the waste heaps around the mine shafts. This calls to mind the scripture story of Lazarus, who was permitted to pick up the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. The munificent generosity, it will be remembered, counted the rich man naught when the final reckoning was made.

Farmers' Boys for Sailors.
The experiment which the government has been making in enlisting sailors for the navy from the interior of the country has been successful. Several hundred farmers' boys from Kansas, Iowa, Kentucky and Nebraska have been in training on the ships Lancaster and Hartford during the past few months, and their instructors say that they are making excellent sailors. Most of the boys got their first smell of salt water when they boarded the ships.

Our Ex-Speakers Doing Well.
Thomas B. Reed's name is not often mentioned in the public prints now, but as the senior partner of the firm of Reed, Simpson, Thacher & Barnum, the ex-speaker is making between \$30,000 and \$50,000 a year, the most money he has ever earned in his life; and it is said that he is quite happy in his new estate. Carlisle, another ex-speaker, is also doing famously at the law in Gotham. Ex-speaker Joseph Warren Keifer is president of the Lagonda national bank, of Springfield, O.

"Thiers Not to Reason Why."
During the maneuvers near St. Petersburg recently a squadron of cavalry was ordered to charge, and galloped into a river, where 30 of the soldiers were drowned. "Thiers not to reason why, Thiers but to do and die." The significance of such obedience on the part of the Russian soldiers will not be lost upon the European powers, and the cruel and unnecessary sacrifice of human lives, by showing of what stuff the Russian army is made, may prevent the slaughter of hundreds in battle.

Not to Be Smeared At.
St. Louis has a corner on all the pepper. This may be particularly unfortunate, for with the corner on anthrax coal in Pennsylvania and the pepper corner in St. Louis, it will be impossible for people to keep warm inside or out. A St. Louis concern has obtained control of the entire pepper shipments that will arrive at New York between now and December 1-450 tons, and when it takes 2,500 tons to supply the territory of St. Louis alone, it will be seen that 450 tons are not to be sneezed at.

WILL USE SUASION.

President Invites Coal Barons to Conference at White House.

Object of the Meeting Is to Discuss the Shortage of Anthracite Coal Supply—President of Miners' Union Also Invited.

Washington, Oct. 2.—The following was made public at the white house yesterday. The telegrams are the result of the conferences between President Roosevelt and members of his cabinet, which were held Tuesday and yesterday:

"George F. Baer, president of the Baer Reading system, Philadelphia.

"President Roosevelt, Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad company, 25 Exchange Place, New York.

"E. B. Thomas, chairman of the board, Erie Railroad company, 21 Cortlandt, New York.

"Thomas P. Fowler, president New York, Ontario & Western Railroad company, 66 Beaver Street, New York.

"R. M. Oliphant, president Delaware & Hudson, New York.

"John Markle, 327 West Thirty-fourth Street, New York.

"I should greatly like to see you on Friday next, October 3, at 11 o'clock a. m., here in Washington, in regard to the failure of the coal supply, which has become a matter of vital concern to the whole nation. I have sent a similar dispatch to John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America.—Theodore Roosevelt."

"John Mitchell, President United Mine Workers of America, Wilkes-barre, Pa.: I should greatly like to see you on Friday next, October 3, at 11 o'clock a. m., here in Washington, in regard to the failure of the coal supply, which has become a matter of vital concern to the whole nation. I have sent a similar dispatch to the presidents of the anthracite coal companies.—Theodore Roosevelt."

ATTACKED A CONVOY.

Blue Army Operating from Salina "Fell on" the Kansas River, "Inflicting Heavy Damage."

Fort Riley, Kan., Oct. 2.—Attack and defense of a convoy was the war problem worked out in the maneuvers Wednesday. A Blue army operating southwest from Salina, Kan., with headquarters at that point, was supposed to receive its supplies from Topeka as a base. The railroads were assumed to be broken up, and supply by wagon train rendered necessary. A raiding force from the Brown army was placed in the position which it would have occupied had it crested around the front of the Blue army, at which point its commander learned of the approach of the wagon train. He at once attacked on the Fort Riley reservation with the purpose of inflicting as much damage as possible upon the train.

To Sink Artesian Wells.
Lincoln, Neb., Oct. 2.—F. H. Newell, chief of engineers in government irrigation work, is here consulting with field engineers and Nebraska members of congress. Mr. Newell says that the government will sink artesian wells in western Nebraska for the purpose of ascertaining the depth necessary for continuous water flow. The same plan will be followed in Kansas and South Dakota.

Not Satisfied with Sites.
St. Louis, Oct. 2.—Considerable dissatisfaction prevails among members of the Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado World's Fair commissions relative to their allotments of sites at the world's fair grounds. The Oklahoma delegation for a time threatened to return home unless a change was made in the site to be awarded to them.

Temperance Campaign Among Catholics.
New York, Oct. 2.—Members of the board of government of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America at a meeting here have mapped out a campaign in the interests of temperance. A general appeal will be made to the hierarchy and clergy of the United States in behalf of total abstinence.

Salt Trade Is Boosted.
Trenton, N. J., Oct. 2.—Chancellor Magie has appointed receivers for the National Salt company. The company's liabilities are given at \$1,150,000, and quick assets at \$838,000. The National Salt company was organized in 1899, with an authorized capital of \$12,000,000.

Miles Sailed for Manila.
San Francisco, Oct. 2.—Lieut. Gen. Nelson A. Miles sailed Wednesday for the Philippines on the transport Thomas, which will call en route at Honolulu and Guam.

Kansas City Leads Chicago.
Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 2.—The cattle receipts at the Kansas City stock yards aggregated 372,663 for September, 60,000 in excess of the receipts at Chicago.

RAILWAY RUMBLES.

Kumski is expected to be reached by railway early next year.

Two motor cars are now carrying passengers between Bulawayo and the outlying districts.

The Southern Pacific has found that four barrels of Texas oil will do the work of a ton of coal. It pays 20 cents a barrel for the oil.

"Draw a circle 100 miles in diameter with Guthrie, O. T., as the center, and you will mark the most active railroad building section in the world," says a railroad contractor. "Within the circle more than 1,000 miles of road are now being built."

The French government has adopted a system of passenger insurance on state railways. The purchase of a penny ticket confers the right to \$2,000 in case of death or permanent injury, from \$500 to \$1,000 for minor injuries, and five francs a day while the injured person is unable to work as the result of an accident of any kind within the precincts of the railway. A passenger may purchase any number of tickets up to ten.

STRONG AGAINST TRUSTS.

New York Democratic Platform Wants Government to Own Anthracite Mines—Bill in Control.

Saratoga, N. Y., Oct. 2.—The committee on contested seats in the democratic state convention agreed to report to the convention against the seating of either the Devery or Goodwin delegates in the Ninth, New York assembly district. All other contests were settled in favor of the so-called Hill delegations. In deciding the Devery contest a number of heated speeches were made and when it was explained that it was Senator Hill's desire that neither Devery or Goodwin be recognized, a motion to that effect was carried with but few dissenting votes.

Bird S. Coler, ex-comptroller of Greater New York and the choice of ex-Gov. Hill, was nominated for governor.

The platform calls for steadfast fidelity to American principles, for the lack of which it arraigns the republican party; demands the return to the principles of Thomas Jefferson to stop demoralization of the country; opposes trusts that injuriously affect consumer and employer and drive out small manufacturers, and especially condemns the so-called beef and coal trusts for "unreasonably depriving the people of necessities of life." Restriction of the amassing of wealth is advocated and the amendment of the tariff law by placing the necessities of life on the free list is demanded. The money question is ignored.

The declaration regarding national ownership of anthracite mines is as follows: "We advocate the national ownership and operation of the anthracite coal mines by the exercise of the right of eminent domain with just compensation to owners. Ninety per cent. of the anthracite coal deposits of the world being in the state of Pennsylvania, national ownership can but be in the interest of the whole people."

WILL COURTS SUSTAIN IT?

Missouri Railway Commission Issues Sweeping Order in Favor of the Shippers of Live Stock.

Jefferson City, Mo., Oct. 2.—As a result of the hearing before the Missouri board of railroad and warehouse commissioners in Mount Vernon, Mo., on July 25, on the complaint of live stock shippers that the Frisco railroad refused to grant return transportation to shippers on one car of live stock, the board has issued an order requiring all railroad companies doing business in Missouri to grant return transportation on one car of stock and fined the Frisco railway \$2,000 for its refusal to grant such transportation. This order of the board applies to all parts of the state.

A BIG SHIPPING COMBINE

The International Navigation Company Changes Its Name and Reincorporates with \$120,000,000 Capital.

Trenton, N. J., Oct. 2.—The ship combine was incorporated here yesterday by the filing of papers amending the certificate of incorporation of the International Navigation company, which was filed in June, 1893, with an authorized capital of \$15,000,000. The amended certificate filed yesterday changes the name to that of the International Mercantile Marine company, with an authorized capital of \$120,000,000, of which one-half is to be preferred stock with six per cent. cumulative dividend. The company is also authorized to issue \$75,000,000 4 1/2 per cent. bonds.

They Are Slaying Each Other.

Victoria, Oct. 2.—Shortly before the steamer Moana left Sydney, official dispatches arrived from New Guinea telling of intertribal fights and massacres. The Tugeri headhunters had attacked the Sanana villages and killed a large number and carried off many heads. The Sanana afterwards attacked the Tugeri.

Government Receipts and Expenditures.
Washington, Oct. 2.—The monthly comparative statement of government receipts and expenditures shows that for the month of September, 1902, the total receipts were \$48,380,381, an increase of over \$4,000,000 as compared with September, 1901. The expenditures for September were \$37,554,798, leaving a surplus for the month of \$10,825,583.

And Christmas Is Coming.
Pawtucket, R. I., Oct. 2.—A proposed combining of 40 concerns throughout the country engaged in the manufacture of toys, games and novelties, is to be joined by a large manufacturing company of Pawtucket. The combination is understood to involve a capitalization of \$10,000,000.

Another Candidate for Senator.
Topeka, Kan., Oct. 2.—Col. James D. Snoddy, of Linn, has announced himself a candidate for United States senator to succeed W. A. Harris. This makes six candidates in the field—Long, Curtis, Stanley, Calderhead, Bowersock and Snoddy.

McCullough Elected Governor of Vermont.
Montpelier, Vt., Oct. 2.—John C. McCullough, of Bennington, has been elected governor of Vermont by the state legislature. He was the republican candidate who failed of election at the polls because he did not carry a majority of the votes.

Collision Between Two Santa Fe Trains.
Ardmore, I. T., Oct. 2.—In a collision near Thackerville between two Santa Fe trains Fireman Lyth was killed. The wreck was caused by failure of trainmen to carry out orders.

Low Rates for Missionary Convention.
Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 2.—Western railroads have granted a 1-1-3 fare rate to Kansas City for the annual national convention of the Woman's Home Missionary society of the M. E. church, to be held here October 15-25.

Snowstorm in Denver.
Denver, Col., Oct. 2.—The first snow of the season began falling here at nine o'clock last night. It had been raining all day. The weather is not cold and the snow melts as it falls.

ENOUGH FOR ALL.

Corn Crop of the United States Will Surpass All Records.

Government Experts Estimate an Aggregate of 2,500,000,000 Bushels—Value of Previous Crops—Only 24 Per Cent Sent Out of States.

Washington, Sept. 30.—Experts of the department of agriculture have been busy making calculations upon the addition to the wealth of the nation that is to be added by the harvesting of the corn crop of the present year. There is no longer any danger from frost. The work of gathering the early crop has been commenced in some sections, and the estimates on the year's production can now be made almost to the bushel. These estimates show that the record in the history of cereal productions is about to be broken. Figures are available now to show the crop for the present year will exceed 2,500,000,000 bushels, enough to supply the needs of the world for this year and next, even should there be a total crop failure in 1903.

In 1900 the United States raised 2,000,000,000 bushels of corn; in 1901, 1,500,000,000 bushels. In 1896 the crop was near to the present bumper yield, making 2,285,000,000 bushels. Last year, because of the scarcity, corn sold at excessive prices. In Kansas the farmers obtained 90 cents a bushel for the crop. The average price was 60 cents. The whole crop sold for \$929,555,768. In 1899, when the crop was twice as large, the price obtained by the farmers was \$629,210,110. The value of the corn crops last year was \$10 an acre, while in 1896, the greatest corn year prior to this one, \$6 was the average price obtained by the farmers. In 1889 corn sold in some parts of the United States for 10 cents a bushel, the lowest price ever known. The corn crops of the United States are worth from \$600,000,000 to \$900,000,000 every year. The exports average from \$175,000,000 to \$200,000,000 annually, or one-tenth of the yield. Only 25 per cent. of the corn raised is exported from the states where it is grown. Some states never raise enough corn to supply the home needs. The middle west states are the principal corn producers. Illinois is the principal exporter.

MAY SEIZE THE MINES.

Shortage of Anthracite Coal at the National Capital Means Public Business—All Departments Are Involved.

Washington, Sept. 30.—Matters are very rapidly approaching a crisis in the coal situation in Washington, not only with the private consumers, but with the government. But little attention was paid a few weeks ago, when representatives of the different departments began complaining that there was not enough fuel in sight to keep the buildings lighted and heated for more than a few weeks.

If there is no fresh supply of coal before the time for the meeting of congress, the legislative body may not be able to hold its sessions. The capitol depends upon electricity for illumination, a lighting plant being established in the building. It requires 10 or 12 tons of coal a day to run this plant. The senate consumes about 4,000 tons a year, and the house of representatives a greater quantity. At this time there is less than 100 tons in the building. This is being consumed rapidly. The embarrassment of the government through the shortage of fuel may, it is said, precipitate the question of the seizure of the mines.

HOUSES WERE ENGULFED.

During a Typhoon Near Yokohama, Japan, a Tidal Wave Drowned Five Hundred People.

Yokohama, Japan, Sept. 30.—During the typhoon Monday a tidal wave swept the Odawara district, near here, and overwhelmed many houses. Five hundred persons are reported to have been drowned. The Japanese battleship Shikishima is ashore at Yokosuka, 15 miles from Yokohama.

Rain Marred the Maneuvers.

Fort Riley, Kan., Sept. 30.—Rain marred the maneuvers Monday and although they were carried out as originally planned, the troops moved out in a steady downpour which continued with but slight intervals throughout the morning. The military problem of the day came as near toward presenting the picture of a battle as anything is likely to do throughout the entire week that the troops are to remain in camp.

Dead on His Wife's Grave.
Leavenworth, Kan., Sept. 30.—William Textor, a well-known citizen of Leavenworth, aged 74 years, was found dead at the grave of his wife in Mount Muncie cemetery. He had committed suicide by shooting himself behind the ear.

Burch to Succeed Ellis.
Topeka, Kan., Sept. 30.—The republican state central committee has named R. A. Burch, of Salina, for associate supreme court justice to succeed Judge A. H. Ellis, deceased.

A Noted Pianist Dead.
El Paso, Tex., Sept. 30.—Gillaume Sauret, who played before nobility on the European continent and was at one time court pianist to the mikado of Japan, is dead in El Paso, where he came for his health. He toured the United States with Edward Ramenyl.

Train Killed a Kansas Preacher.
Wichita, Kan., Sept. 30.—Rev. Samuel R. Anderson, Presbyterian, while on the Missouri Pacific "Y" Sunday evening hunting a strayed horse, a switch engine struck and killed him.

Trains Running Regularly.
Washington, Sept. 30.—The navy department is advised of the receipt of a cable dispatch from Vice Consul Ehrman at Panama, which states that the trains are running regularly over the Panama railroad, and no disturbance is apprehended.

Railroad from Cripple Creek to Pueblo.
Denver, Col., Sept. 30.—Articles of incorporation of the Cripple Creek & Pueblo Railway company were filed in the secretary of state's office yesterday. The capital stock of the corporation is \$2,000,000.

MORO STRONGHOLDS TAKEN.

The American Troops Driving Out the Insurgents from Their Forts—No Casualties Among Our Soldiers.

Manila, Oct. 2.—The Macia Moros in Mindanao have offered but slight resistance to the column under Col. Pershing, of the Fifteenth cavalry. After a series of skirmishes on Monday and Tuesday of this week the Moros retreated into six forts on the shores of the lake. When a courier left Macia Tuesday for Camp Vicars Capt. Pershing was preparing to assault the last Moro stronghold. The American column reached the former camp at Macia Sunday night. On Monday the Moros opened fire on them with a brass cannon and rifles from a series of new forts which had been erected since Capt. Pershing's first visit to the place. The battery under Capt. McNair sealed a ridge commanding the position of the Moros and shelled them out. The engineers under Capt. Morrow had constructed a trail over the swamp flanking the Moro position. The men of Capt. Pershing's column crossed the swamp by the trail and captured and destroyed three of the Moro forts. The Moros stood but a short while and ran as soon as the artillery opened on them. Twenty Moros were killed. There were no casualties among the Americans.

EMILE HARTMAN CAUGHT.

At the Home of a Relative in South Me.—Alister This Alleged Booby Was Nabbed by an Officer.

St. Louis, Oct. 2.—A special from South McAlester, I. T., says that Emile Hartman, a former member of the house of delegates who has been a fugitive from justice since September 8, was arrested by a deputy marshal at the residence of his brother-in-law in that city. The dispatch says that Hartman admits his identity. The prisoner is one of the six fugitives who were indicted for bribery on the confession of John H. Murrell, another former councilman under indictment who recently came back from Mexico, whither he had fled. A reward of \$300 was offered by the state for the arrest of Hartman.

A HIGH MORAL TONE.

Miss Helen Gould Objects to Cheap Dances in the Midway at St. Louis World's Fair.

St. Louis, Oct. 2.—Mrs. James Lawrence Blair, of St. Louis, was yesterday elected president of the board of lady managers of the Louisiana Purchase exposition. The ladies of the board unofficially decided to ask the exposition management to erect a woman's building on the grounds. Miss Helen M. Gould offered a set of resolutions yesterday afternoon which express the sentiment of the board in favor of a high moral tone in the exposition and against anything savoring of the objectionable dances performed in the midway of the Chicago fair.

HONOR LINCOLN'S MOTHER.

At Lincoln City, Ind., a Monument Was Unveiled Wednesday, Gen. John C. Black Delivering the Oration.

Lincoln City, Ind., Oct. 2.—A monument to Nancy Hanks Lincoln, mother of President Abraham Lincoln, was dedicated here Wednesday and notwithstanding the disagreeable weather a large crowd witnessed the ceremonies. One of the disappointing features of the exercises was the inability of J. S. Culver to be present. He is the contractor who furnished the stone for the Nancy Hanks monument from the old base of the Abraham Lincoln monument at Springfield, Ill. Gen. John C. Black, of Chicago, delivered the oration and Gov. Durbin accepted the monument.

Cooler September Since 1868.
Lawrence, Kan., Oct. 2.—Dr. F. H. Snow, of the University of Kansas, in his weather report for September, says that the past month was the coolest September since 1868, when the average for the month was .34 of a degree below that for last month.

Many Greeks Murdered by Bulgarians.
Constantinople, Oct. 2.—The Greek legation has informed the port that 150 Greek notables were murdered by Bulgarians in the districts of Monastir and Salonica during the last two months and has asked what steps Turkey proposes to take for the protection of Greeks.

Public Debt Further Decreased.
Washington, Oct. 2.—The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business September 30, 1902, the debt, less cash in the treasury, amounted to \$957,418,857, which is a decrease of \$10,675,434 as compared with September 1.

Thurston's Son Attempted Suicide.
St. Louis, Oct. 2.—Clarence Thurston, aged 23, son of ex-United States senator Thurston, of Nebraska, attempted suicide by asphyxiation in a hotel here to-night. There is a possibility that he may not recover.

Makes a Complete Circuit.
Enid, Ok., Oct. 2.—The last spike on the Rock Island extension to Anadarko was driven yesterday, making a complete circuit from Enid south to Chickasha, west to Anadarko, north to Watonga and back to Enid, a distance of 200 miles.

Fatal Explosion of a Boiler.
Glasgow, Ky., Oct. 2.—Five persons were killed by the explosion of a boiler at Jesse Hinslow's mill at Rocky Hill yesterday. The accident is supposed to have been caused by low water in the boiler.

Rockford Gets the Pennant.
Rockford, Ill., Oct. 2.—The fall meeting of the Illinois-Iowa-Indiana baseball meeting was held here yesterday and the pennant for the 1902 was formally awarded to Rockford. The salary limit was fixed at \$900 per month, effective in each club, after June 1.

A Colliery Started.
Hazleton, Pa., Oct. 2.—Coxe Bros. & Co. started their Drifton colliery yesterday with a small non-union force of men. The colliery is guarded by about 200 special officers.

PAID TO SOLDIERS.

Interesting Statistics from the United States Pension Office.

Since the System Was Established in 1790 the Government Has Paid Out \$3,992,509,519 to Soldiers, Their Widows and Orphans.

Washington, Sept. 29.—The annual report of the commissioner of pensions, Eugene F. Ware, made public yesterday, shows that the number of names on the pension rolls still is under the million mark, despite a net gain of 5,735 pensioners since 1898. The total enrollment July 1 last was 999,446, against 997,735 last year. The total comprises 738,809 soldiers and 260,637 widows and dependents. The aggregate includes 4,695 pensioners outside the United States.

The number of death notices of old soldiers, not now in the service, received by the bureau during the year was 50,128, but only 27,043 of them were pensioners.

The report says that the death rate among the pensioners for the coming year will be about 40,000 and the losses to the rolls from other causes will be about 6,000. The total amount paid for pensions during the fiscal year was \$137,504,268 and the yearly cost of operating and maintaining the bureau and the agencies outside of the payment of pensions proper aggregates \$3,590,529. The pension system, says the report, since the beginning of the government has cost \$2,992,509,019, exclusive of the establishment of the soldiers' homes. The pension disbursements by the United States from July 1, 1790, to June 30, 1895, were \$96,445,444.

The following amounts have been paid to soldiers, their widows, minor children and dependent relatives on account of military and naval service during the wars in which the United States has been engaged: Revolutionary war (estimated), \$70,000,000.

War of 1812 (on account of service, without regard to disability), \$15,025,297.

Indian wars, 1832-1842 (on account of service, without regard to disability), \$5,814,207.

War with Mexico (on account of service, without regard to disability), \$31,501,338.

War of the rebellion, \$2,744,878,276.

War with Spain, \$3,275,184.

Actual total disbursements in pensions, \$2,900,854,302.

A STORM IN SICILY.

Two Hundred Persons Perish in a Tornado—A Village Destroyed and Forty-Three Persons Drowned.

Syracuse, Sicily, Sept. 29.—A storm burst over the district of Santa Maria yesterday and many houses were destroyed. The stormy weather continues generally throughout Sicily. It is now believed that 200 persons perished at Modica during the tornado. In one instance a family of ten persons was drowned in bed. The village of Sortino has been practically destroyed and 43 persons were drowned. The water rose in the church to a height of 12 feet. Many children lost their lives. There have

A MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.

An Attempt Made to Blow Up the Family of Columbus Walton at South St. Joseph.

St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 29.—An attempt was made last night to destroy the family of Columbus Walton, of South St. Joseph, by the use of several sticks of dynamite. The family lived over a store run by Walton and the dynamite was placed under the step of the front of the building. The detonations were terrific and were heard 12 miles away. The main part of the structure was destroyed, but the family miraculously escaped injury. The loss is \$5,000. The police have no clue.

Big Fire at Stockton, Cal.

Stockton, Cal., Sept. 29.—One of the largest fires in the history of Stockton started here yesterday evening in the agricultural pavilion. The structure, together with all its contents and two residence blocks, was totally destroyed and three other residence blocks were burned to the ground with the exception of a few buildings. The approximate loss is \$300,000, less than half insured. The fire started through a plumer hunting for a leak in a main in the pavilion with a lighted candle.

Want Roosevelt to End Strike.